

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUFFOLK FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT TO PROMOTE SIX

SUFFOLK, VA (May 29, 2012) The City of Suffolk Fire & Rescue Department will hold a promotional ceremony on Wednesday, May 30, 2012, at 6 p.m. in City Council Chamber, 441 Market Street. Light refreshments will be served following the ceremony. Suffolk Fire & Rescue promotions are as follows:

Lieutenant Select: Firefighter Mark A. Hubbert

Firefighter Mark Hubbert began his passion for the fire service in 1988 as a volunteer with Franklin Fire & Rescue. In 1995, Hubbert became a paid firefighter with the Franklin Fire Department. Living in Courtland, he joined the Courtland Volunteer Fire Department, eventually earning the rank of Captain.

In June of 2000, Hubbert was hired by the City of Suffolk Fire & Rescue Department and was initially assigned to Engine 1 B-Shift. His assignments have included Engine 41, Engine 34, Engine 3, Engine 5 and Engine 8, where he served as an Engineer. In January of 2011, he was re-assigned to C-Shift as an acting Officer on Rescue 1. He is currently serving on Ladder 3.

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Firefighter Mark Hubbert was born in Washington, D.C. At the time, his father was in the U.S. Army with the 3rd Infantry Division (Honor Guard) which led to Hubbert later joining the Suffolk Fire & Rescue Departmental Honor Guard.

Hubbert is the father of a son, Braxton, 12. He enjoys coaching youth basketball and football. Hubbert is the offensive coordinator of the Franklin Mustangs.

Lieutenant Select: Firefighter James C. Sessoms

Firefighter James Sessoms joined the Suffolk Fire & Rescue Department on September 1, 2003. Sessoms graduated from Tidewater Community College with an AS in Business Management and an AA in Liberal Art. He graduated from Christopher Newport University in 1995 with a BA in Governmental Administration with a specialty in Legal Studies.

Sessoms also graduated from the Hampton Roads Fire Officer Command School and the FEMA Task Force II Structural Collapse Technician School.

Sessoms is a lifelong resident of the City of Suffolk and graduated from John Yeates High School in 1989. His family owns and operates Sessoms Automotive Repair Shop in Suffolk as well as the Sessoms Drag Racing Operation.

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Lieutenant Select: Firefighter Andrew M. Savage

Senior Firefighter Andrew Savage joined the Suffolk Fire & Rescue Department on October 1, 1993 after previously serving with the Elizabeth City Fire Department since 1991. Savage began firefighting in 1987 as a volunteer with the Chesapeake Fire Department in the Fire Cadet program rising to the rank of Captain.

Savage has been assigned to numerous stations and companies over the years as a firefighter and acting officer. Savage has obtained a number of certifications including Officer IV, Inspector III, Instructor III and Leadership III. He completed classes at the National Fire Academy and completed the Hampton Roads Fire Officers Command School in 2008. Savage also has an Associate's Degree in Fire Science and a Bachelor's in Fire Administration, Cum Laude, at Columbia Southern University.

Savage lives in Chesapeake with his two children, Andre'na and Trevon. Savage is the oldest child of Bishop and Pastor Richard and Irene Moore, and sits on the Board of Trustees and is the ordained Elder of the Church.

Lieutenant Select: Firefighter Roy F. Barry

Firefighter Roy Barry joined the Suffolk Fire & Rescue Department on September 2, 2003. Barry graduated from Old Dominion University in 2004 with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Finance.

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Barry was born and lives in the City of Norfolk. Barry and his wife Crystal have been married for seven years and have two children, Keegan (6) and Aidan (3). Barry's grandfather, Roy Stevens, is the oldest and longest serving member of the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department in New York.

Lieutenant Select: Firefighter Christopher D. Cornwell

Firefighter Chris Cornwell joined the Suffolk Fire & Rescue Department on June 16, 2000. Cornwell served as Assistant Marshal from 2007-2011 before acting as a Lieutenant on Engine 2 in 2011.

Cornwell attended the Hampton Roads Regional Fire Officer Command School in York County in 2004. He participated in the Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings Program at the New Mexico Tech Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center in Socorro, New Mexico. Cornwell has a Bachelor of Science Criminal Justice Degree from Bluefield College. He graduated from the 2008 Suffolk Leadership Academy.

Cornwell has been married to his wife, Melissa, for 10 years. They have 3 boys, Christopher, Jr. (6), Tristan (4), and Sawyer (4 months). Cornwell was raised and lives in Ivor, Virginia. The family is proud members of Millfield Baptist Church. He is the owner/operator of Creek Bend Properties, L.L.C.

(more)

Lieutenant Select: Firefighter Raymond E. Willet

Firefighter Raymond Willet joined the Suffolk Fire & Rescue Department on March 16, 2006. Following graduation from the Southside Regional Fire Academy, Willet worked at several stations before being assigned as Emergency Medical Services Coordinator.

Willet holds numerous EMS and Fire Services certifications including NREMT-P, Virginia EMT-B Instructor, Virginia ALS Coordinator, and an AAS in EMS.

Willet resides in Suffolk with his wife, Katherine, and son, Rex.

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